

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAPE T 00341 081457Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----081459Z 072603 /53

P R 071552Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5803
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T CAPE TOWN 0341

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT - PARA 2)

FOR ASST SECY SCHAUFLE FROM BOWDLER

USUN FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR SF WA
SUBJ: SOUTH AFRICAN POSITION ON NAMIBIA

REF: STATE 049696

1. I APPRECIATE REPORT ON YOUR LATEST CONVERSATION WITH PIK BOTHA ON NAMIBIA. IN CONVERSATION WITH BRAND FOURIE OVER WEEKEND, HE COMMENTED THAT BOTHA HAD SEEN YOU TO DISCUSS NAMIBIA BUT HE HAD NOT SEEN A REPORT YET. I TOLD HIM YOU WERE KEEPING ME INFORMED OF THE TALKS AND THAT I WAS PLEASED TO SEE THAT IN THE SA MEMORANDUM THERE WAS THE INDICATION THAT THE SAG WAS WILLING TO DISCUSS THE SEVEN POINTS. FOURIE SAID THAT THE SAG'S PRINCIPAL INTEREST IN DISCUSSING THE POINTS WAS TO FIND OUT WHAT WE THOUGHT IT WOULD TAKE TO MAKE A NAMIBIA SETTLEMENT INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTABLE. IN RESPONSE TO MY OBSERVATION THAT, IN LIGHT OF MUDGE'S RECENT STATEMENT THAT HE

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HOPED TO COMPLETE THE WORK OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEE BY MARCH 18 (CAPE TOWN 0328), I HOPED TURNHALLE WOULD NOT MOVE TOO FAST AND TOO FAR. FOURIE REPLIED THAT THE SAG HAD WAITED FOR A LONG TIME FOR INDICATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT, THAT SWAPO HAD SHOWN NO REAL FLEXIBILITY, AND THAT IF THE REST OF THE WORLD PLANS TO GO TO WAR AGAINST NAMIBIA, FROM A

SOUTH AFRICAN STANDPOINT IT IS BETTER THAT IT BE AAFINST
AN "INDEPENDENT NAMIBIA."

2. I NOTE THAT BOTHA SPOKE "PERSONALLY" ABOUT MANY OF
THE SEVEN POINTS OFFERING A FRAMEWORK FOR CONTINUED
NEGOTIATIONS. IN VIEW OF HARD LINE DISPLAYED BY FOURIE
AND RECENT STATEMENT BY MUDGE, I WOULD NOT BE SURPRISED IF
BOTHA IS FIGHTING FOR DELAY AND FLEXIBILITY HERE AND IS USING
HIS TALKS WITH YOU TO INCREASE HIS LEVERAGE.
BOWDLER

SECRET

NNN

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